



CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2026

Catalytic Unrestricted Grant · USD 25,000 · July–December 2026

GAC · KENYA

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITIES (GAC) KENYA CHAPTER

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Catalytic Unrestricted Grant for Community Impact

Women Empowerment · Education · Climate Resilience · Hybrid Financing *Anonymous Philanthropic Donor* ·
USD 25,000 Unrestricted · July – December 2026

GRANT AT A GLANCE

Grant Amount	USD 25,000 (Unrestricted)
Funding Type	Unrestricted — organizations may apply funds toward core operational priorities aligned with the thematic focus areas
Donor	Anonymous Philanthropic Contributor
Grant Period	1 July 2026 – 31 December 2026
Eligible Applicants	Active GAC Member at the time of the call Organizations registered and operating in Kenya
Applications Close	20 June 2026 at 23:59 East Africa Time (EAT)

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Global Alliance for Communities (GAC) Kenya Chapter is a membership based platform uniting community-driven organizations dedicated to advancing grassroots development across the global south. GAC serves as a convening, capacity-strengthening, and resource mobilization body for community rooted organizations.

GAC Kenya has been approached by a philanthropic donor partner who requests to remain anonymous and has committed unrestricted funding of USD 75,000 to be deployed to 3 deserving GAC member organization in Kenya during the period July to December 2026. The donor's intent is to catalyze high-impact, community-rooted work with a particular emphasis on organizations that have embedded sustainability into their operational DNA and that demonstrate genuine commitment to women and girls as primary beneficiaries.

In the spirit of transparency and equal opportunity, GAC is issuing this open Call for Proposals to all active member organizations. All submissions will be evaluated by an independent review panel against a published scoring matrix. The process is merit based, and the selected organization will be formally notified before 30 June 2026.

2. THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS

Proposals must demonstrate meaningful work in at least three of the following five thematic focus areas. Organizations whose core mandate spans all five areas will receive additional recognition during scoring.

2.1 Hybrid Financing and Organizational Sustainability (Primary Priority)

GAC recognizes that dependency on donor funding alone is neither resilient nor scalable. This grant cycle strongly favors organizations that have developed or are actively developing hybrid financing models including income generating activities, social enterprise structures, community savings mechanisms, membership revenue, fee for service offerings, or blended finance approaches.

2.2 Women and Girls' Empowerment (Primary Priority)

This call places women and girls at the center of all interventions. GAC is specifically seeking organizations who's programming directly addresses systemic barriers facing women and girls in Kenya including economic exclusion, limited access to education, gender-based vulnerabilities, and underrepresentation in leadership and enterprise. Applicants must demonstrate how their work translates into measurable change in women's lives.

2.3 Education, Skills and Mentorship

Organizations engaged in formal or non-formal education, vocational skills training, digital literacy, mentorship programmes, or community learning initiatives are strongly encouraged to apply. Proposals should demonstrate how education activities contribute to economic empowerment particularly for women, youth, and marginalized groups.

2.4 Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

Given Kenya's acute vulnerability to climate related shocks, GAC prioritizes organizations that integrate environmental sustainability into their community work including climate-smart agriculture, clean energy solutions, water and sanitation projects, agroforestry, or environmental advocacy. Climate activities must show how communities, especially women, are building long-term resilience.

2.5 Community Enterprise and Social Innovation

Innovative, community-rooted approaches to social and economic challenges are welcome. Organizations creating scalable models of community enterprise, leveraging technology for social good, or piloting replicable solutions are encouraged to demonstrate this in their proposals.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, an organization must satisfy ALL of the following:

- Be a registered legal entity operating in Kenya (NGO, CBO, Trust, Social Enterprise, or equivalent) at the time of the release of the call
- Hold active membership in the Global Alliance for Communities (GAC) Kenya Chapter at the time of application
- Have been operational for a minimum of two (2) years from date of registration
- Demonstrate an active and verifiable track record of community programming in at least one GAC thematic area
- Have a minimum of one (1) full-time or equivalent staff member responsible for program delivery
- Not be under investigation, suspension, or sanction by any regulatory body or by GAC
- Submit a complete EOI Application Form with all required supporting documentation by the stated deadline

⚠ Note: Organizations that are wholly donor-dependent with no evidence of any sustainability strategy will be at a disadvantage in scoring. The scoring matrix strongly rewards hybrid financing and sustainability approaches.

4. WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- A credible, community-rooted implementation model led by or significantly involving women
- A clear and compelling theory of change connecting activities to outcomes for women and girls
- Evidence not just intention of hybrid financing: income streams, enterprise revenue, savings groups, or other non-grant revenue already operational
- Quantifiable impact: beneficiary numbers, outcomes achieved, and evidence of change
- Integration of at least one climate or environmental sustainability component
- Organizational governance structures that demonstrate accountability and prudent resource management
- Potential for the funded work to continue or be replicated beyond the grant period

5. FUNDING CONDITIONS

- A single award of USD 25,000 will be given to one qualifying member organization
- The grant is unrestricted: funds may be allocated across activities, operations, or strategic priorities provided these align with the declared thematic focus areas
- The grant period runs from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026 all activities must be completed within this window
- The recipient will submit a mid-point progress report (by 31 August 2026) and a final narrative and financial report (by 15 January 2026)
- GAC reserves the right to conduct a site visit or verification exercise at any point during the grant period
- The anonymous donor's identity shall not be disclosed by GAC or the recipient organization

6. APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1 — Complete the EOI Application Form

Download and complete the GAC Expression of Interest (EOI) Application Form in full. Incomplete submissions will not be considered. The form is designed to be accessible you do not need specialist grant writing experience to complete it.

STEP 2 — Attach Supporting Documents

Certificate of Registration or Incorporation, GAC Membership Confirmation, Most recent Annual Report or Organizational Profile (2023, 2024, or 2026), Most recent Audited or Management Accounts (within the last 24 months)

STEP 3 — Submit Your Application

Email your complete application package A zipped to: info@globalallianceforcommunities.org with the subject line: "EOI 2026 [Organization Name]" DEADLINE: 20 June 2026 at 23:59 East Africa Time (EAT). Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.



7. SELECTION TIMELINE

MILESTONE	DATE
Call for Proposals Issued	4 June 2026
Application Submission Deadline	20 June 2026 — 23:59 EAT
Review Panel Evaluation	23–27 June 2026
Notification of Outcome	30 June 2026
Grant Agreement Signing	By 4 July 2026
Grant Period Begins	1 July 2026
Mid-Point Progress Report	31 August 2026
Grant Period Ends	31 December 2026
Final Report Due	15 January 2026

8. SCORING SUMMARY

All eligible applications will be reviewed by an independent panel against seven dimensions. The full scoring criteria are published in the separate Selection Matrix document.

#	SCORING DIMENSION	WEIGHT	MAX	
A	Women and Girls' Empowerment	25%	25	
B	Hybrid Financing & Sustainability Model	30%	30	
C	Climate Resilience & Environmental Impact	15%	15	
D	Education, Skills & Mentorship	15%	15	
E	Organisational Capacity & Governance	5%	10	
F	Community Reach & Inclusivity	5%	10	
G	Innovation & Scalability	5%	5	
TOTAL		100%	100	